

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 7 plus subject matter from paragraph [0024] of the specification. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Metz (US 2004/0049875 A1) and Eustache (US 5,271,120) disclose a wiper system or a wiper drive. Masuda (US 2002/0083544 A1) discloses a wiper system with breaking points. Rapp (WO 02/22409 A1) discloses a wiper drive with stress-controlling elements.

None of the cited references teaches a windshield wiper device with both predetermined breaking points and stress-controlling elements. Moreover, none of the cited references teaches that the stress-controlling elements are arranged in such a way that a stress in the base in an impact with the windshield wiper device will increase on the predetermined breaking point in such a way that the predetermined breaking point will bend or even break off completely. This inventive concept makes it possible to reduce a pedestrian's risk of injury from the windshield wiper device if a pedestrian hit the windshield wiper device in case of an accident.

Therefore, amended claim 1 and dependent claims 2-6, 8-12 and 14-17 are allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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